



Travel Itinerary



March 24, 2020 - to March 30, 2020

Florence and The Villages and Vineyards of Tuscany

Tuesday, March 24, 2020

Florence

Florence airport

Arrival in Florence and check in to your hotel, Gallery Hotel Art. https://www.lungarnocollection.com/gallery-hotel-art?gclid=Cj0KCQjw8svsBRDqARIsAHKVyqHdLLnCkjZvW-yLr_t10DfnA6D8QxXZOD5ManbaFOZs_LFeurm3HA0aArDNEALw_wcB

03:00 PM – Michelangelo and the Medici Family Walking Tour

3.30-hour private guide service for a walking tour focused on life and masterpieces of the pride of Florence, Michelangelo Buonarroti. Enjoy an intimate journey to retrace the artist's life and career under the patronage of the powerful Medici.

FirenzeCards (Florence Museum Passes) and earphones are included.

At the end of the tour, the guide will accompany you back to the hotel for dinner.



The first port of call will be to the Palazzo Medici, designed by Michelozzo and home to the most powerful family in Florence and the first real example of a Renaissance mansion. Just around the corner is the church of San Lorenzo and the Medici Chapels. Leo X Medici conceived the idea of this self-glorifying monument to the Medici dynasty, particularly his father, Lorenzo il Magnifico and commissioned Michelangelo to design and sculpt the tombs. Continue to Casa Buonarroti, one of several homes owned by Michelangelo and where he lived for ten years. Today it houses an institute for study and research of the works of Michelangelo, as well as the family archives. The permanent exhibition shows marble statues and a wooden model of the San Lorenze Church.

Firenze Card is the official museum pass of City of Florence. It is valid for 72 hours starting from the first entrance and it allows you to enter only once into all the museums of the Circuit and to visit permanent collections and temporary exhibitions. With this card, you can enjoy the priority access to museums with no need to make reservation. It is promoted by the Municipality of Florence, the Ministry for the Arts and Cultural Activities, the Metropolitan Municipality of Florence and the Chamber of Commerce of Florence.

Wednesday, March 25, 2020

10:00 AM – The Artisans of Florence

Come and witness the timeless working traditions of skilled artisans in Florence! During this 3.30-hour private guided walking tour, you will have the chance to get in touch with priceless craftsmen's

workshops, discovering ancient techniques preserved from generation to generation.

During the tour, you will be brought to a craft laboratory (bottega artigiana) in the heart of the city, which proudly continues the famous tradition of the Florentine mosaic work (known as "Comesso Fiorentino" or "Mosaico Fiorentino"). Here, you will enjoy a brief visit and demonstration of marble cutting.

Afternoon on your own and most definitely a visit to the Food Market.

Lunch and dinner at leisure.



Florentine artisans and workshops are very proud in showing their work and skills in the traditional Florence crafts, i.e: paper decorating, leather making, silver and gold smithing, inlaid (pietre dure) stonework. Our guide will introduce you to some of these experienced masters in their arts...You will be able to also purchase unconventional items to bring home!

Thursday, March 26, 2020

10:00 AM – Castles of Chianti

This morning, you will be driven to a charming castle plunged in the heart of Chianti area - now a prestigious winery, one of the biggest of the area! - for a guided visit of it, followed by a traditional Tuscan light lunch paired with wines (included).

After lunch, on to Villa Gamberaia, historic villa - located on the hills of Florence, boasting an exceptional position overlooking the Arno valley - known for its magnificent garden. Here, you will enjoy an interesting guided tour of both the interiors and the garden (fees included).

Later afternoon and dinner at leisure.



This ancient Tuscan castle offers private and exclusive wine tastings, preceded by a guided tour where you can enjoy the castle and the centennial cellars. Visit historic rooms and admire the wonderful sixteenth-century frescos by Florentine painter Bernardino Poccetti. End the tour with a traditional Tuscan light lunch paired with wines!

On your way back to Florence, you can't miss a stop for a visit of the wonderful Villa Gamberaia, built in the early 1600s: set on the hillside of Settignano, with extraordinary views of Florence and the surrounding Arno valley, this villa is renowned for its splendid terraced garden (which has been studied and celebrated by architectural historians and garden designers throughout the centuries!).

Friday, March 27, 2020

10:00 AM – The Pitti Palace Collections and Boboli Gardens

3.30-hour private guide service for walking tour of the marvelous Pitti Palace and Boboli gardens. FlorenceCards (Florence Museum passes) and earphones are included.



All the famous sights of Florence are on one side of the River Arno; cross a bridge and you will enter a totally different world, much quieter, in terms of tourists but with a wealth of history and art to discover. The magnificent Pitti Palace was the residence of the Medici family and left untouched through the centuries. Here you will admire their wealth, opulence and extraordinary art patronage. End your visit in the Boboli Gardens, where you can wander among cypress trees and gaze at spectacular vistas of Florence.

Saturday, March 28, 2020

10:00 AM – Fashion Frenzy!

Enjoy a fascinating 3-hour private guided walking tour focused on the history of the Italian fashion in Florence! Start with a visit of the ancient aromas of "Officina Profumo-Farmaceutica di Santa Maria Novella", one of the oldest pharmacies in the world. Proceed with the Gucci Museum, boasting permanent collection of Gucci pieces from all eras and of all kinds, from bags, purses, dresses and scarfs, to jewelry, precious objects and even sports equipment.

(The Ferragamo Museum will sadly be closed).

At the end of the tour, you will enjoy a pleasant (optional) lunch break at Massimo Bottura's Gucci Osteria.

Afternoon, evening and dinner at leisure on own.



*Today's tour will start with **Farmacia di Santa Maria Novella**, a monastery where hand-made scents and creams have been produced for centuries (this is one of the city's best kept secrets and you will be able to purchase them in the elegant shop!). After that, proceed with a visit of **The Gucci Museum**, telling the story of the Italian fashion and leather goods manufacturer from its early start in the city of Florence to the global biggest-selling Italian brand that it is today.*

Sunday, March 29, 2020

10:00 AM – Sunday in Tuscany

Today don't miss the chance to enjoy an exciting half day bike tour or strolling tour! You'll be picked-up by private minivans and transferred to the meeting point, where your bike tour will begin. After a great ride between the wonderful Tuscan hills (with e-bikes), enjoy a stop for lunch in a local trattoria (included). You'll be then driven back to your hotel. Strollers will meet the bikers for lunch. (Details of the operation of this whole day will be "polished" when numbers are determined for how many bikers and how many non-bikers!) We will make this a great day.

Helmets and water are included.

Afternoon and dinner at leisure.



A bike ride is a perfect and leisurely way to see the beautiful Chianti countryside and get some exercise and... The best thing about it is that all the details are taken care of for you! You will be provided with professional mountain bikes, an expert bilingual guide, helmets and water bottles, plus minivan support. The ride is about 16 miles and is of moderate difficulty. During the tour, as well as riding through some magnificent scenery, you will have the chance to admire some local churches and small medieval villages, enjoying a delicious Tuscan meal at the end of it!

Monday, March 30, 2020

Florence Departure

Private transfer by 3 minivans to Florence airport.

Departure by flight TBA.

Service ends: Florence airport

*Registration may be obtained from: justladiestraveling@gmail.com,
weezieglascock@gmail.com
ginnymabry@gmail.com*

Trip Details

\$3250 per person double occupancy

\$1100 single occupancy

Deposit of \$850 required with registration and final payment January 1, 2020 – all payments are nonrefundable, and we strongly suggest travel insurance. See www.allianztravelinsurance.com or one of your choice.

Included in cost:

- **6 nights hotel**
- **Taxes and portorage**
- **Breakfast daily**
- **Two lunches with wine**
- **Two dinners with wine**
- **Tours as listed with guides**
- **Guide gratuities**
- **Florence Card for additional private visits**
- **Departure transfer to Florence Airport**
- **Hosted by Ginny and Weezie**

Not included in cost:

- **Airfare**
- **Arrival transfer**
- **Insurance**

- **Meals not listed in the itinerary**

This trip must have 12 participants to operate and is limited to 14 participants.

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